



Joseph & Lindell
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CHARLES IInd
FVRNITVRE
offered for sale by
PHILLIPS OF HITCHIN

Property of
Joseph L. Snidlar
1924.



The doorway of the Manor House, Hitchin

THE MANOR HOUSE HITCHIN

THE Manor House at Hitchin was built between the years 1705 and 1720 by a certain John Bristowe, a retired East Indian merchant, who occupied it until his death in the reign of George II.

In the 19th century the Bristowes sold the Manor House, and it passed through many vicissitudes, becoming in turn a farm, a school and a private residence.

In 1883, some forty years ago, the Manor House was acquired by the late Mr. F. W. Phillips, a celebrated antiquary and naturalist, who founded there the business which is now carried on by his sons, Messrs. H. & A. Phillips.

Mr. Hassall Atkinson, in his memoir on "Curio Hunting in the Provinces," says: "Only those who have visited the Manor House at Hitchin have any idea of the extraordinary charm of the place. It contains some eighty rooms, mostly panelled, and filled with Old English furniture. Each room is set out with the old-world appointments of its period, not in the haphazard manner of an ordinary antique shop, but in the same orderly way which prevailed when the house was the private residence of an 18th century gentleman.

"Thus, every specimen of old furniture which Messrs. Phillips acquire finds a new home at the Manor House, and it is placed in its correct surroundings in an old panelled room. In most cases the decorated plaster ceilings, the curtains, pictures, carpets, the wall lights—in fact, everything down to the door handle of the room—are old. It will readily be imagined that so complete and orderly an arrangement as this places the Manor House in a unique position, far in advance of any of the show places of England."

In the days of George II, when the Manor House was first built, it took the traveller some eight hours to get to Hitchin from London, and the only public conveyance was the old coach, which followed the Great North Road from London to Edinburgh. Nowadays things are greatly changed, and visitors from London span the intervening thirty-five miles in their motor-cars in something over the hour. Indeed, it is quite a usual practice for people in London to run down to Hitchin after lunch and see the Manor House and return to town in time for dinner.

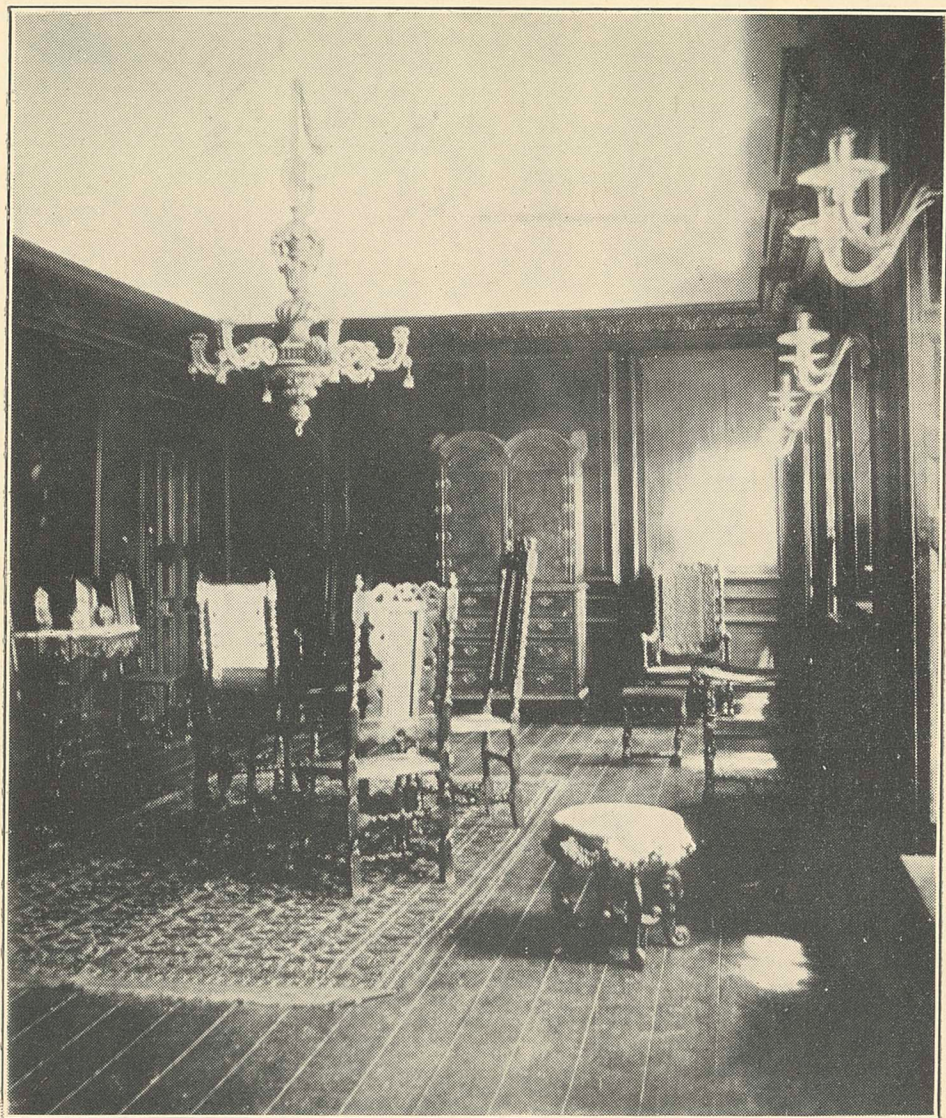
The route is a very picturesque one. Starting from, say, the lower end of Baker Street, London, the traveller passes the shady woods of Regent's Park, past Lord's Cricket Ground, through Hampstead, and on to Golders Green, where the road brings one to open country.

The next fifteen miles along the Great North Road bring one to the beautiful old town of Hatfield, and a stop may be made on certain days to see Hatfield House, an Elizabethan mansion, which is still the seat of the Cecil family. Continuing past Hatfield, one passes through beautiful undulating country and dense woods in the direction of Welwyn, an untouched Georgian village, which is worth a visit in itself.

At the end of the village of Welwyn, the traveller leaves the Great North Road, which curves to the right and takes the direct road straight to Hitchin, passing through some of the most beautiful woodland scenery in England, and skirting Knebworth Park, the ancient seat of the Lytton family.

Hitchin is most accessible by rail, as it is fortunately situated on the Great Northern main line, and the principal expresses to and from the North stop at Hitchin and bring the traveller either to or from London in about forty minutes.

In presenting this catalogue to collectors, Messrs. Phillips express the hope that those who have not been down to Hitchin will be induced to pay a visit to this beautiful old



A Charles II Room

house and its treasures. The catalogue has necessarily been some time in preparation, and, in consequence, many of the specimens illustrated have been sold. Nevertheless, specimens of similar quality have, where possible, been found to replace them.

OLD ROOMS

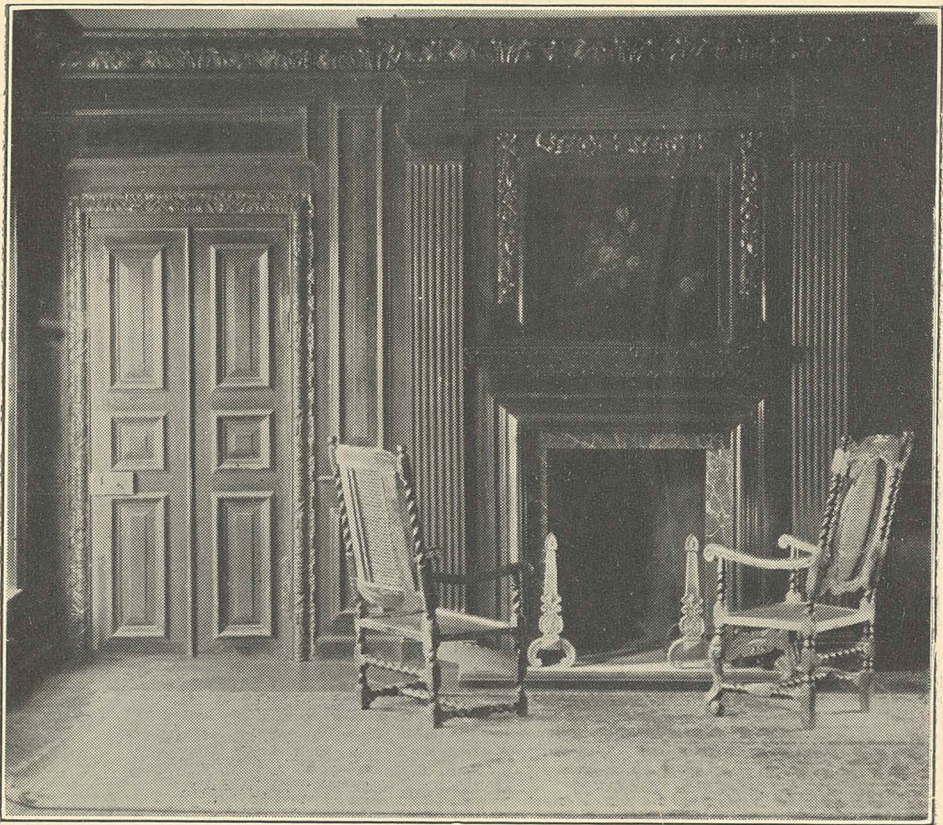
Messrs. Phillips have for sale some old panelled rooms of the late 17th and early 18th centuries, which they have acquired from time to time from old houses prior to demolition. On account of their beauty and their low cost, these rooms are of great interest to the collector. They can be altered in size to fit rooms of different proportions, and when refixed they present an ideal background for old furniture.

The beautiful room shown on pages 5 and 7 is an example of a panelled parlour of the period of Charles II, the cornice and frieze, together with the door architraves and mantelpiece, being carved in the style of Grinling Gibbons.

Of still greater merit are the impressive Felling Hall rooms, removed from the remains of Old Felling Hall, Northumberland. These consist of two apartments, one of oak and the other of carved pine, together with their original enriched ceilings. An illustration of one of them is shown on page 15.

The panelling was supposed to have been designed by Charles Brandling, who built Felling Hall at the close of the 17th century. The rooms, although comparatively small, measuring, approximately, 25 ft. square, are of extraordinary beauty and are probably unrivalled specimens of 17th century woodwork.

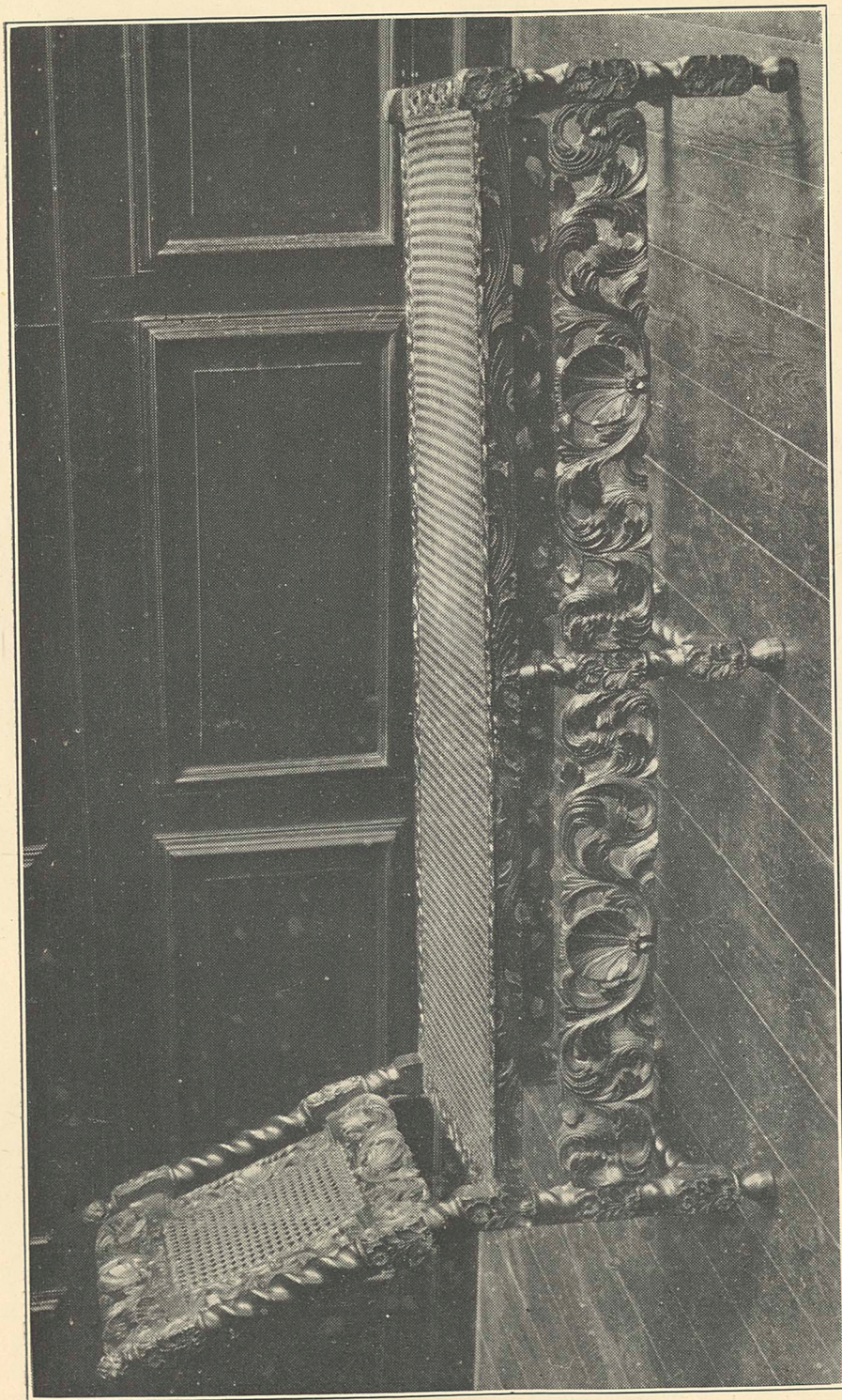
Queen Anne rooms of the type shown on page 27 have an impressive grandeur of their own, and this effect is partly due to the reticent use of classical ornament which came into fashion at that period. Original carved wood panelling of this type is very costly, but as such rooms were always painted over, the value of the hand-carving is lost. For this reason Messrs. Phillips have taken casts of such rooms, and they are prepared to reproduce them in wood and composition for a very moderate cost. (*Vide* p. 27.)



A CHARLES II ROOM

A Charles II room at the Manor House, Hitchin. The walls are of panelled oak. The cornice architraves and mantelpiece are boldly carved with acanthus ornament. Another view of this room is shown on page 5. The room was removed from an old house in the West of England. The wood is of a dark tortoiseshell colour. The room is one of the most interesting examples in existence, and it has been illustrated and described in Mr. Arthur Stratton's work *The English Interior*.

CHARLES II
FURNITURE

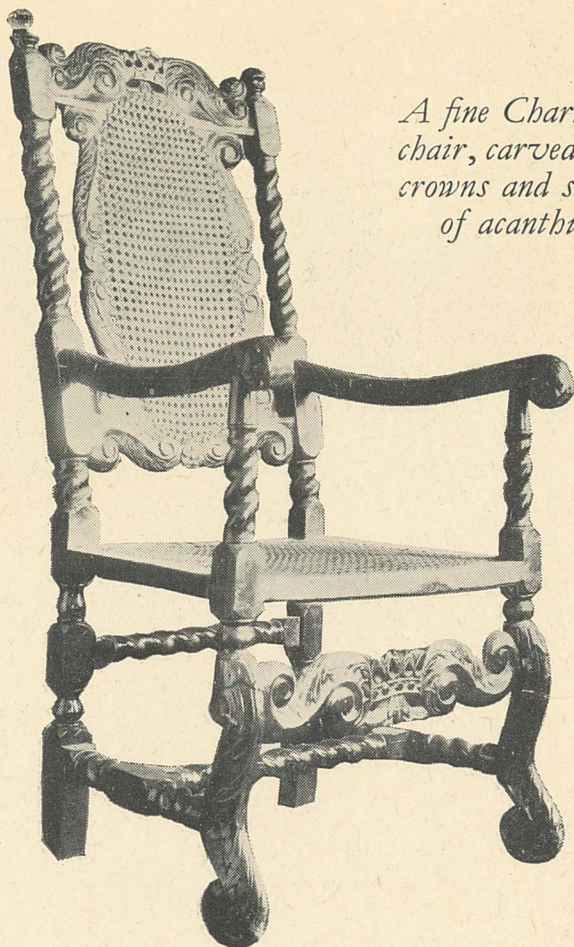


A magnificent Charles II day-bed, boldly carved with shells and acanthus ornament



CHAIR

A pair of fine Charles II chairs of rich brown walnut wood. The backs and seats have the original caning. The crestring rail and stretcher are ornamented with shells and acanthus scrolls, as on the day-bed, page 9. Price, each chair, £12 10



*A fine Charles II
chair, carved with
crowns and scrolls
of acanthus*

CHAIRS

A Charles II chair, painted black, with high cresting rail. The legs and uprights of the back of corkscrew or barley sugar turnery. Price £8 10

Another chair, with caned back and seat, the top rail domed and pierced with leaf ornament. The legs of plain turnery. Price £9 10

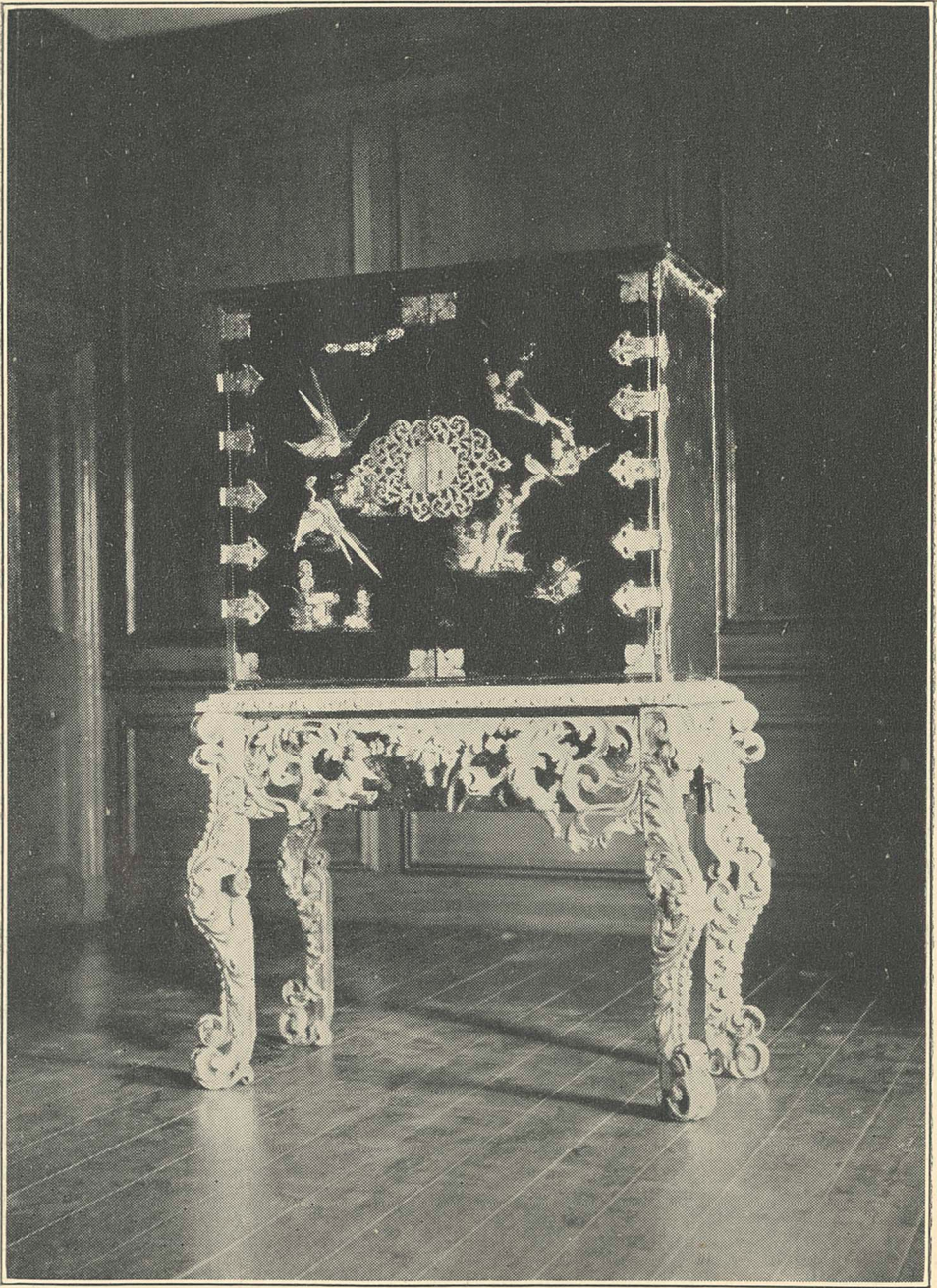
A chair of beechwood, with carved stretcher and cresting rail. The back has been re-caned. The frames of barley sugar turnery. Price £15

An arm chair of early Charles II type with wide-meshed caning, the turnery of barley sugar type. Price £35

WILLIAM & MARY
FURNITURE



A corner of an old oak-panelled room removed from Felling Hall to the Manor House, Hitchin. The room, which is approximately 25 ft. square, has the original enriched plaster ceiling.



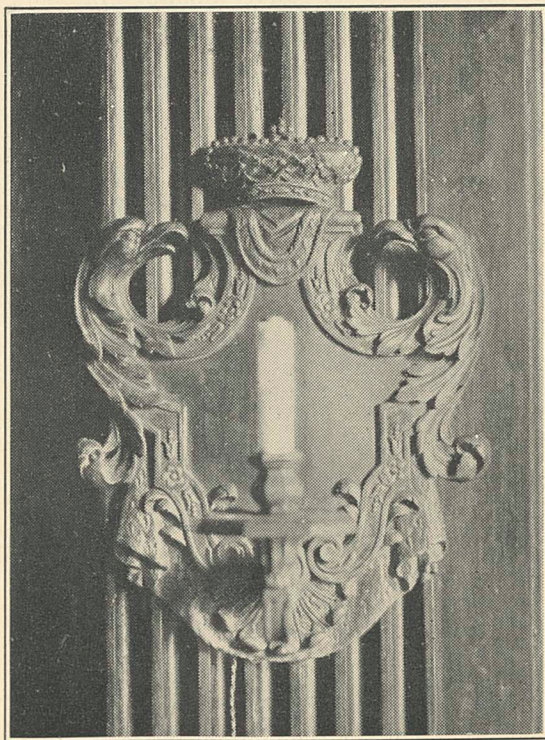
A magnificent lacquer cabinet on an original silvered stand. The upper part is decorated with Chinese birds, trees and figures, carved in relief and naturally coloured. The interior contains drawers and cupboards.

WILLIAM AND MARY FURNITURE

A sconce or wall light, modelled from a beautiful design of Daniel Marot, who worked at Hampton Court about 1690. Width of back plate, 15 inches. (*See illustration.*) Reproductions. Each £8 15

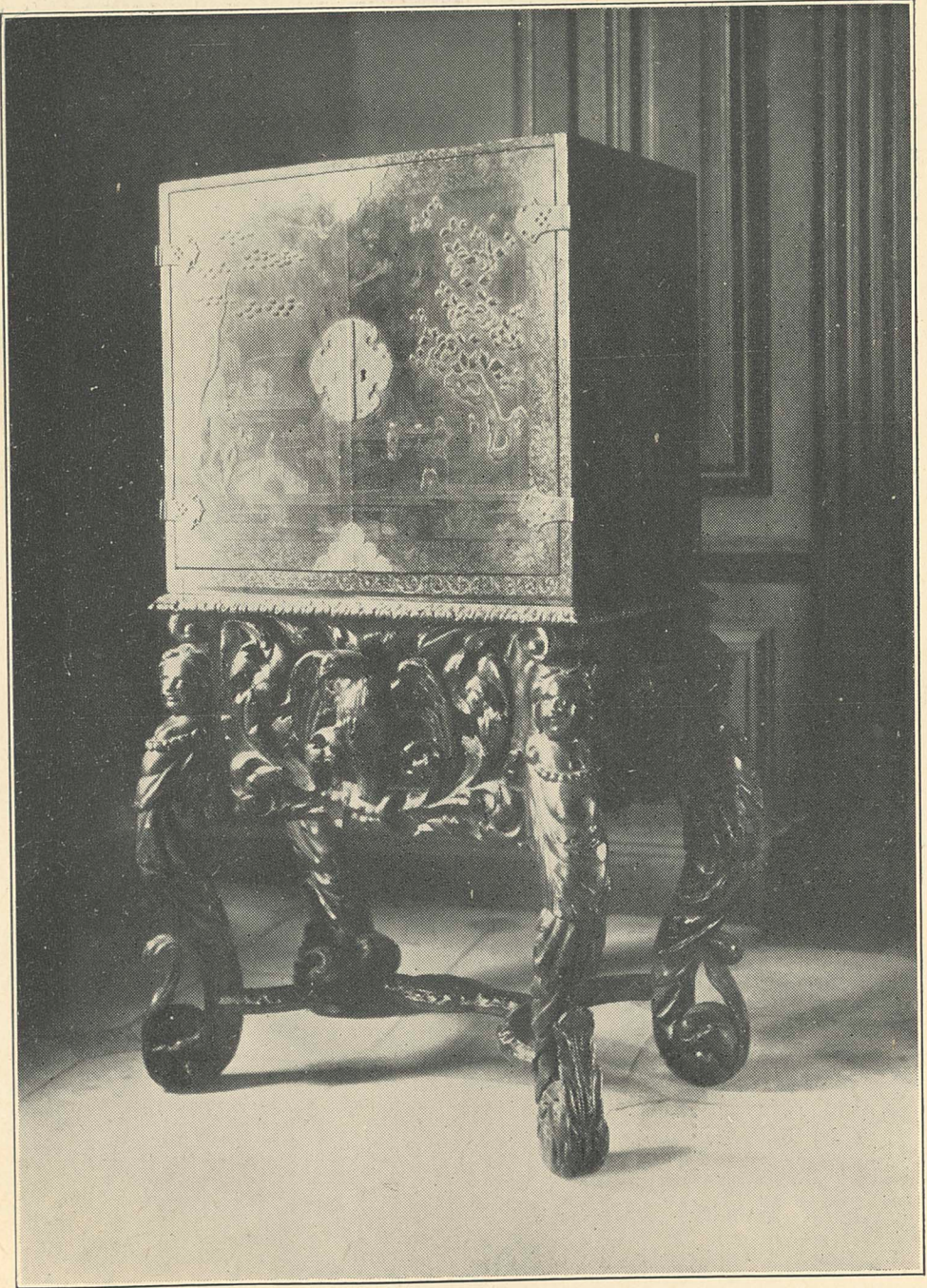


Another sconce, made after Daniel Marot, probably designed in the 17th century for the Earl of Albemarle. (*See illustration below.*) Reproductions. Each £8 15



A Charles II lace box. The top inlaid with circles of oyster-wood. Size, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. Price £7 10

A Charles II table with oyster-wood top, the legs of barley sugar turnery. A fine specimen. Price £45



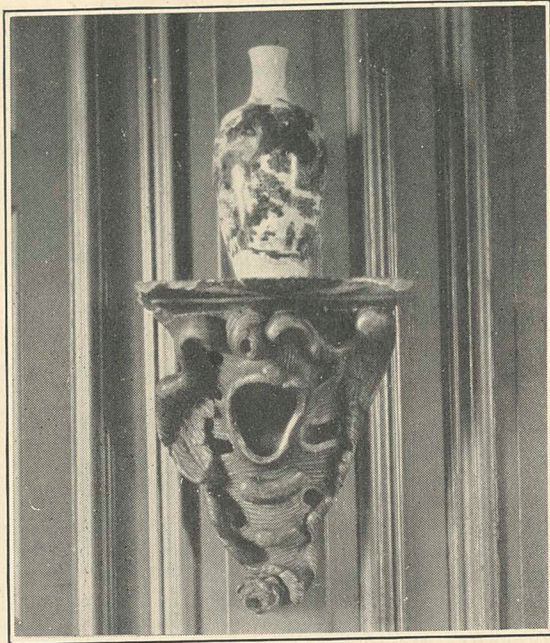
A beautiful lacquer cabinet on stand of carved wood, the legs formed of caryatid figures.

WILLIAM AND MARY FURNITURE

(continued)

A pair of gesso wall brackets, designed with seraphim wings and scrolls, showing traces of the original gilding. (*See upper illustration.*) Each,

£5 15

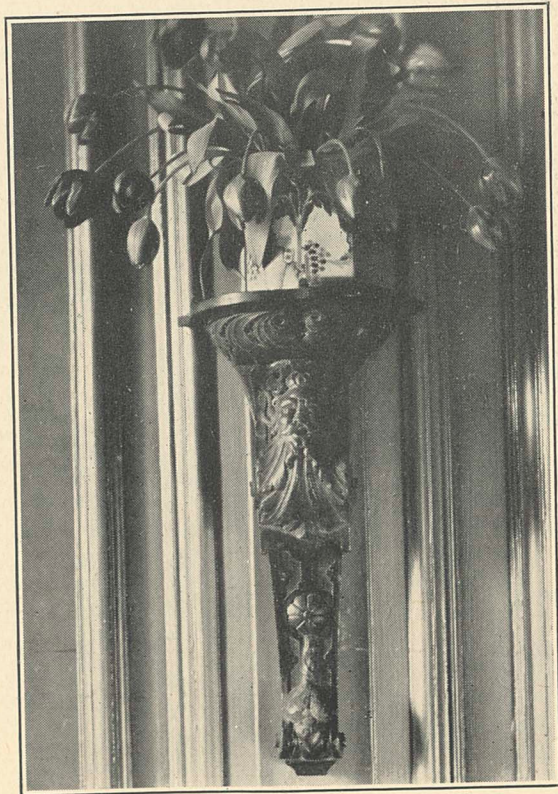


A wall bracket of carved wood, consisting of a mask supporting a canopy of acanthus. Of dark wood, partly gilt. (*See lower illustration.*)

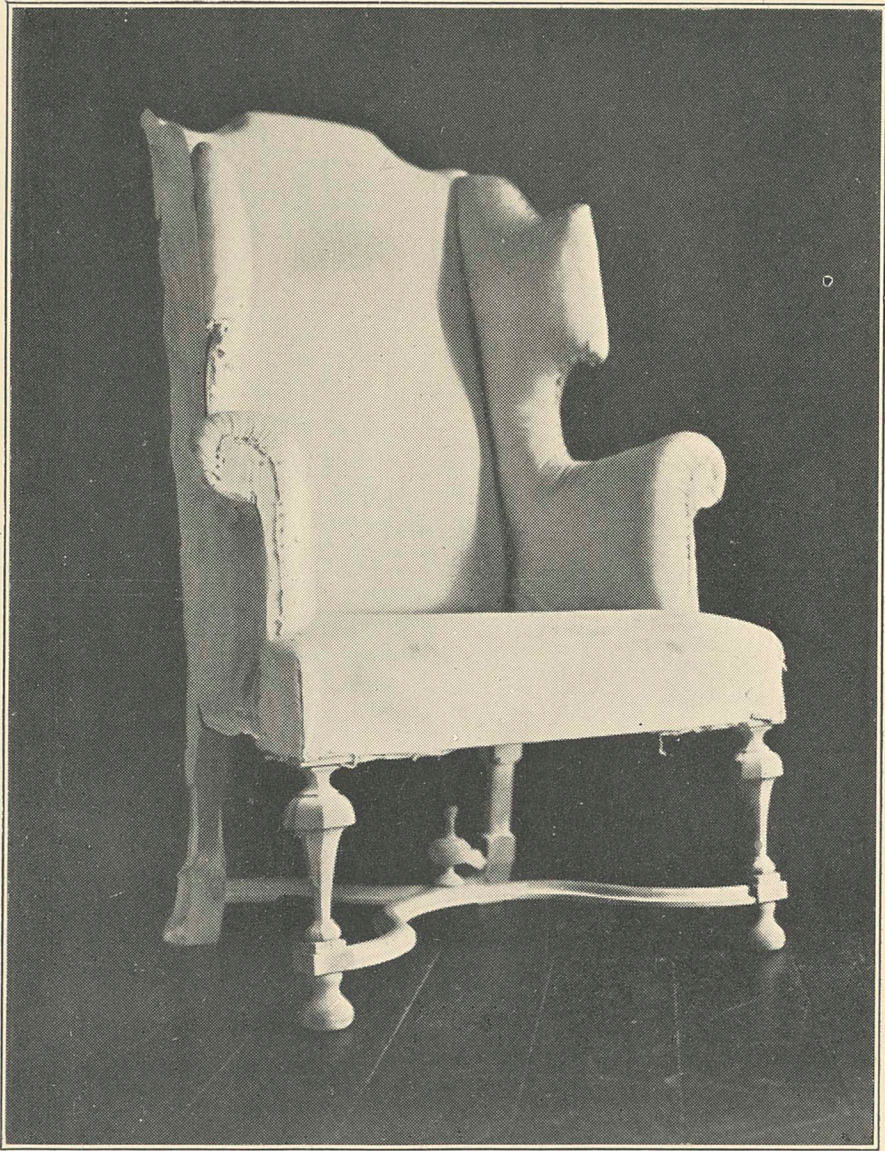
Price £5 10

A wall bracket of similar design but somewhat smaller.

Price £4 10



The upper part of a lacquer cabinet, the doors enriched with Chinese landscapes in bold relief. Width, 3 ft. Price £25 10



A grandfather chair with upholstered wings of unusual form. The front legs are of delicate bell shape. The stretcher is of X section surmounted at the intersection by an urn-shaped finial. Price £35

WILLIAM AND MARY FURNITURE

(continued)

A curious circular stool with scrolled legs and stretchers.

Price £18 10

Another similar.

Price £15

A stool with legs of octagonal section, the stretcher of X shape, surmounted by a turned finial. A fine specimen.

(See illustration above.)

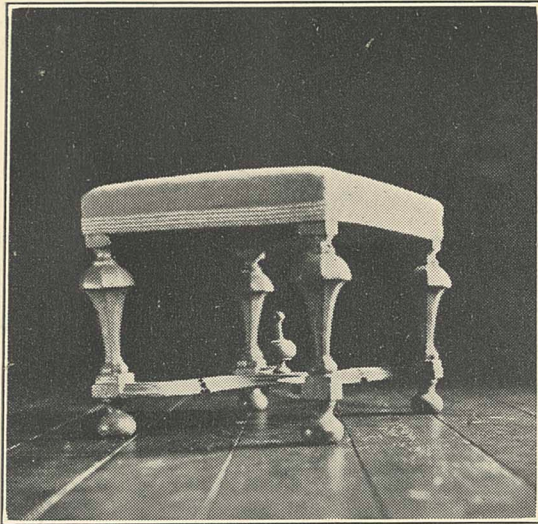
Price £45

A stool with spirally turned legs and stretchers, the top has the original upholstery.

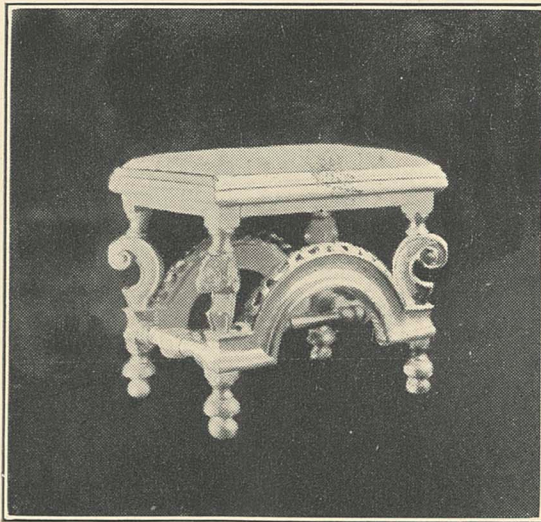
Price £27 10

A stool with bead turned legs and square stretchers, in oak. Partly restored.

Price £12 10



A painted stool



A stool upholstered in needlework



A walnut china cabinet with drawers below.



A marqueterie lace box. Price £12 10

WILLIAM & MARY FURNITURE

(continued)

A clock in black lacquer, with Chinese landscapes, the dial having chased brass spandrels. The head of domed shape, surmounted by brass finials. Price £22 10

A corner cupboard, 6 ft. 6 in. high, of soft wood, the doors panelled with heavy bolelection mouldings. The plinth of bold section. Width, 3 ft. 3 in. Price £18 10

A small bracket clock in dark wood with chased brass spandrels to dial. Price £22 10

A stool with scroll feet and stretchers; the top is circular and has the original upholstery. Price £12 10



A walnut china cabinet, 3 ft. wide, 6 ft. 6 in. high, slightly
restored



CAROLEAN PICTURES

A picture of an English gentleman in a brown coat, with white lace cravat; attributed to Mary Beale. Price £12 10

Messrs. Phillips have for sale a large number of decorative portraits of the Schools of Sir Peter Lely or Sir Godfrey Kneller.

QUEEN ANNE
FURNITURE



AN INEXPENSIVE ROOM

The illustration shows a beautiful blue and gold room of the early 18th century. Messrs. Phillips have taken casts of this room, and they are prepared to reproduce it for the moderate sum of £175, painted complete. Particulars on application.



A magnificent gilt gesso chair in the original velvet covering



A gesso table.

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

A pair of chairs with cabriole legs and drop-in seats, the backs are curved and have solid splats. Price £18

A single chair with cabriole legs, the back upholstered in damask. Price £14 10

A Queen Anne table with three drawers, the top of cross-banded walnut, the legs of cabriole pattern. Price £15

Another table of similar type. The drawers and the top of closely figured, or gun stock, walnut, the legs of cabriole type. Price £25

A Queen Anne tea-table in oak. The edge is raised and the corners incut. Price £9 15



A set of six Queen Anne chairs, in walnut. Each, £12 10
Particulars of other sets of Queen Anne chairs will be sent on
application. The collection includes the beautiful set of chairs
with original needlework seats from Littlecotes Manor.

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

(continued)

A Queen Anne chair in oak, with cabriole legs and solid splat.

Price £5 5

A Queen Anne single chair with balloon seat and urn-shaped back.

Price £8 10

A pair of similar chairs with shells carved on the knees. Each, £16 10

A set of four Queen Anne chairs with plain splats in the backs. Each, £9

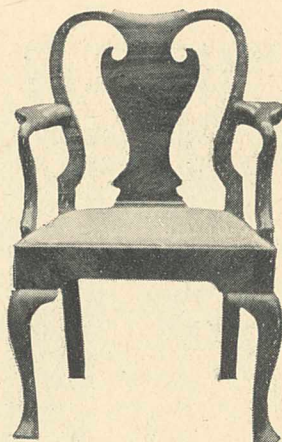
A set of eight Queen Anne chairs partly restored, consisting of six smalls and two arm chairs. Each, £18 10

A set of three Queen Anne chairs in oak, the legs of round section with club feet. The seats of solid wood recessed to receive cushions. The backs are of unusual pattern.

Each, £12

A single balloon-back chair, upholstered and covered in the original repp.

Price £9 10



Pallet-back chair



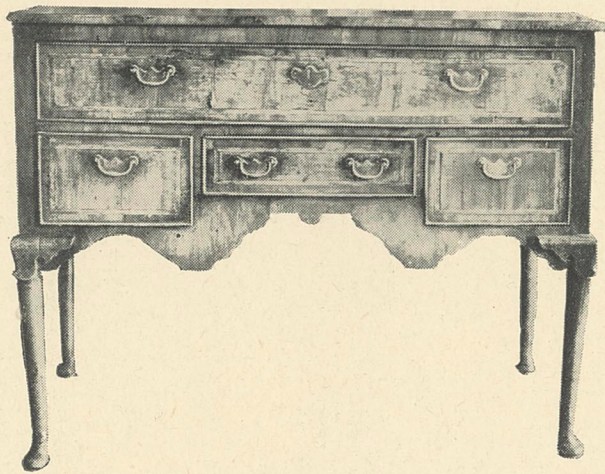
Carved chair



Fiddle-back chair



A Queen Anne table with crossbanded top, the drawers bordered with herringbone inlay. Price £8 10



Large walnut side-table

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

(continued)

A Queen Anne table, 2 ft. 9 in. wide, the top of walnut and the legs of beechwood, one drawer in front. Price £7 15

Another table with cabriole legs and crossbanded top. Width, 3 ft. Price £10 10

A Queen Anne table with three drawers in the front, the top crossbanded with walnut and herringbone inlay. Underframing is of swept outline—a fine piece. Price £17 10

A fine Queen Anne side-table of unusual size, being 3 ft. 3 in. wide with crossbanded top and cabriole legs. Original handles. Price £27 10

A Queen Anne writing chair with circular back and square seat. Price £10 10

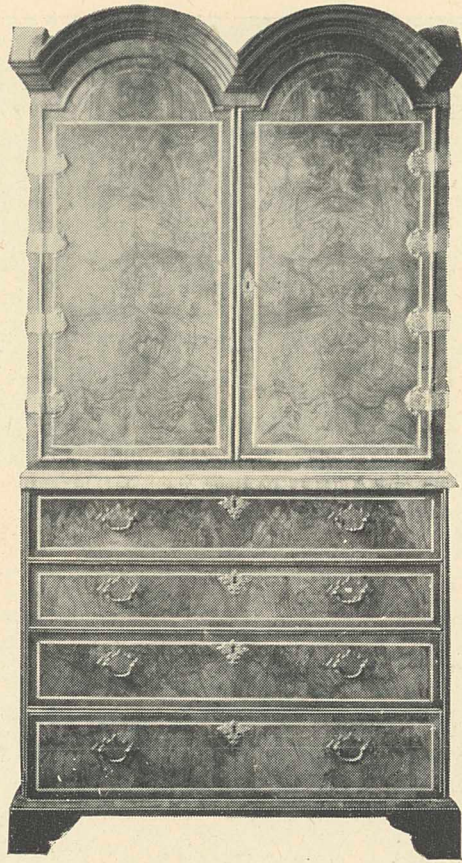
A Queen Anne writing chair in beechwood. The back of circular shape, supported on turned pillars divided by splats of fiddle-back shape. The legs of turned section terminating in club feet. Price £7 10

A Queen Anne walnut letter rack or stationery box. Price £2 5



An old Queen Anne room at the Manor House, Hitchin. The walls are of apple green with gilt mouldings. The curtains are in saffron-yellow damask.

Messrs. Phillips have for disposal several old pine-panelled Queen Anne rooms, some with the original carved wood cornices, mantelpieces and overdoors. Also six plain but early pine-panelled rooms, complete with doors and fireplaces, removed from an early 18th century house in the neighbourhood. These rooms have been stripped of their paint, and waxed to show the grain of the wood. Plans and particulars of these rooms may be had on application.



A Queen Anne cabinet

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

(Continued)

A Queen Anne corner cupboard or china cupboard; the doors, which have shaped panels, are in white wood painted cream colour. Price £18 10

A walnut cabinet consisting of two oblong doors above and two square doors below, the cornice of classical mouldings. Price £37 10

A walnut cabinet of dwarf proportions with walnut doors crossbanded with hickory. 3 ft. high. Price £35

A china cupboard with glazed doors. Price £45



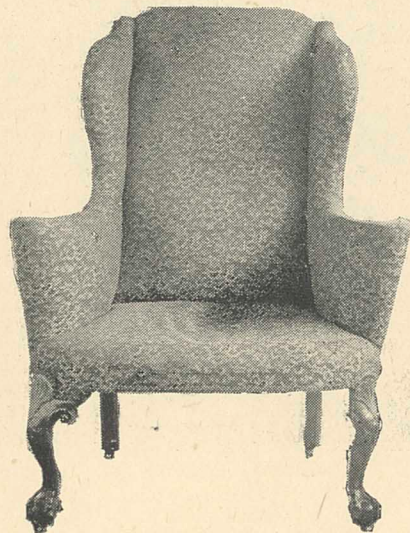
A Queen Anne circular library table, 3 ft. 6 in. diameter.

Price £9 10

GRANDFATHER CHAIRS

The illustrations show three types of these very beautiful old chairs. The upper illustration shows a specimen in the original yellow covering. The lower one on the left has the original silk needlework, consisting of a floral pattern in rich colours on a yellow ground. Portions of the silk fringe remain.

The lower chair on the right is somewhat similar in shape, but has elaborately carved cabriole legs of the late Queen Anne type.





A Queen Anne bureau in walnut. Price £16 10



A knee-hole writing-table

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

(continued)

A Queen Anne bureau in walnut, with three drawers below.
Size 2 ft. 8 in. high, 3 ft. 3 in. wide. Price £17 10

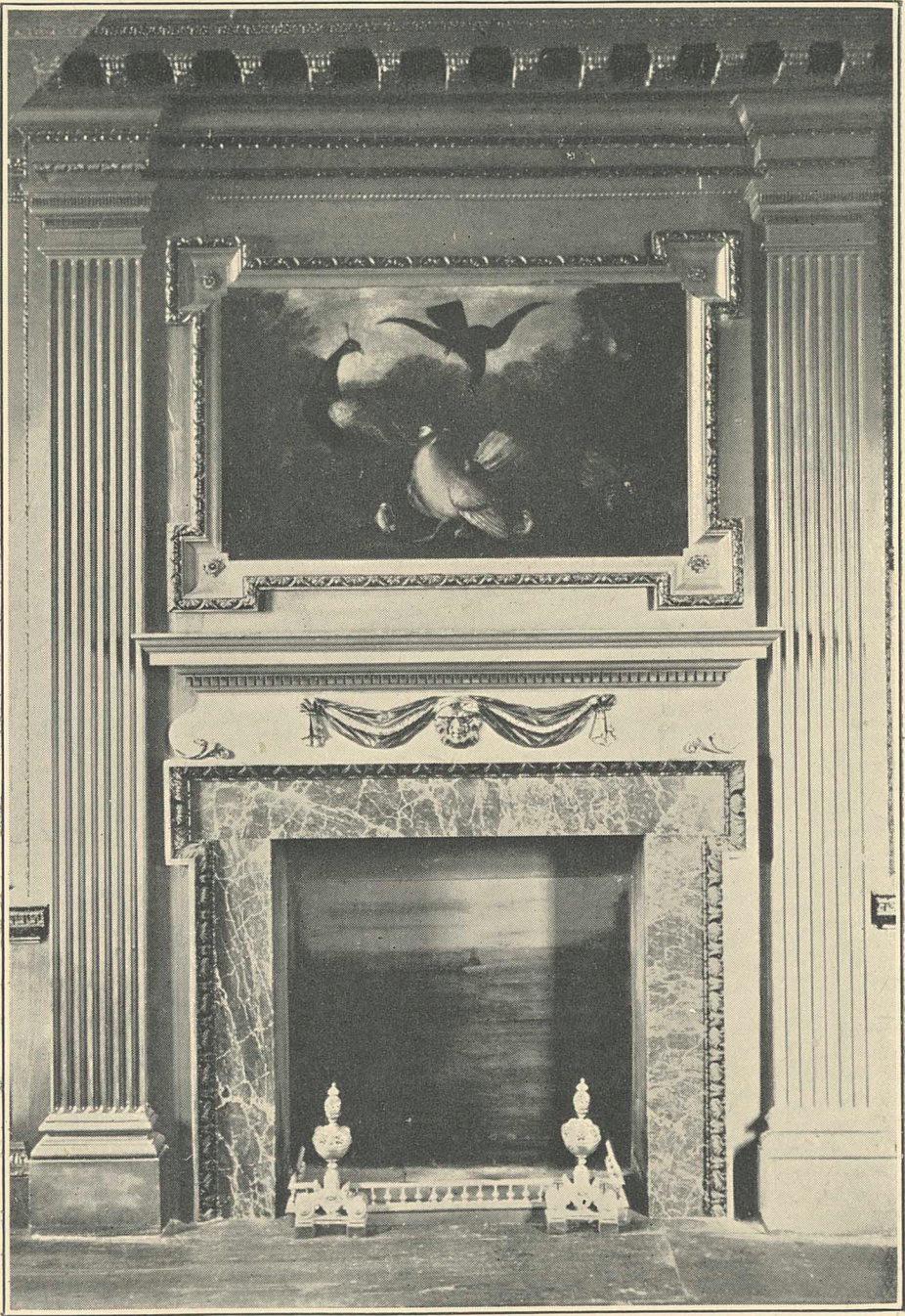
Another bureau, 3 ft. 4 in. wide, with shaped pigeon-holes, and
with slide and sunk well in centre. Price £21

A beautiful bureau of golden walnut, with the drawers cross-
banded and inlaid with herringbone patterns. Price £35

A walnut knee-hole writing-table, 2 ft. 6 in. wide, with ten
drawers, crossbanded and inlaid with herringbone inlay.
Original handles. Price £37 10

A Queen Anne bureau with three drawers below. The drawers
have a banding of inlay around the edges. Price £25

A Queen Anne walnut side-table of unusual size, being
3 ft. 6 in. long. The legs are cabriole. The centre part is
arched, making it suitable for writing. Price £29 10



The mantelpiece in the Hogarth Room (*see page 27*), with a picture of birds by Barlow, circa 1710.



OVERMANTEL PICTURES

A picture, in brilliant tones of blue grey and old rose, of a basket of flowers with a dog and pigeon in the background.

(See illustration above.) Price £9 15

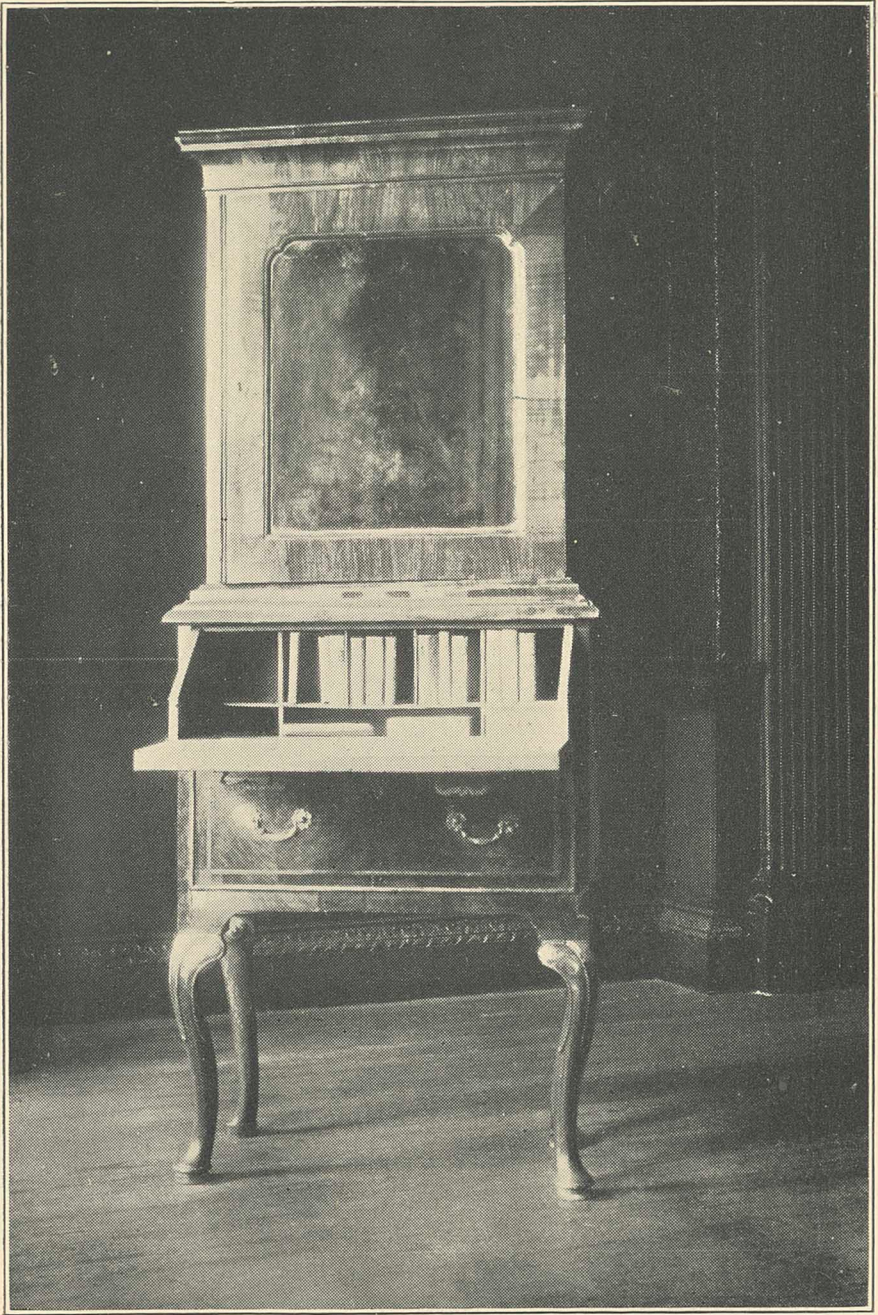
Another similar.

An overmantel picture, showing an old Dutch garden with figures in the foreground. Price £8 15

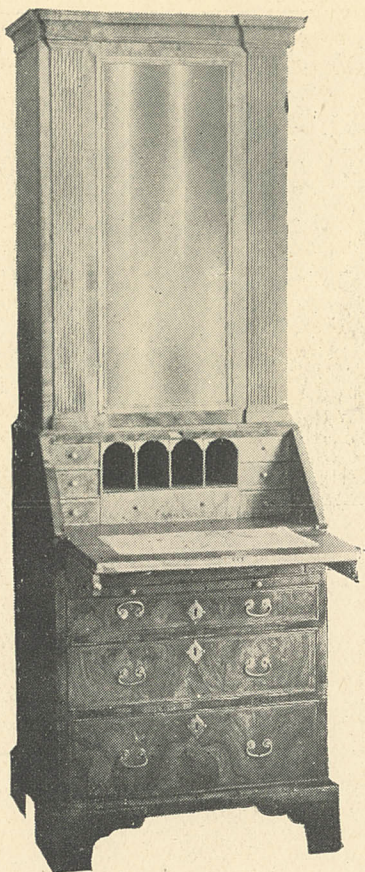
An oblong picture of a basket of flowers (needs slight restoration). Price £9 10

A fine overmantel picture of fruit and flowers, signed J. Hoeg. Price £45

A battle picture, showing a naval engagement between English and French frigates. Price £22 10



A very fine Queen Anne secretaire, on the original cabriole legs, and in untouched condition. A rare specimen.



A walnut bureau with mirror above

QUEEN ANNE FURNITURE

(continued)

A bureau of walnut wood, 3 ft. wide, with crossbanded inlay round drawers. Price £18 10

A bureau with cupboard doors above. Price £47 10

A fine specimen, similar to the above, but with crossbanded edges to the drawers and shaped cornice, faced with finely figured veneer. Price £65

Another of gunstock walnut, finely mottled. The cornice shaped and crossbanded. Price £77 10



A miniature Queen Anne bureau of early type
 Above is a picture of flowers. Price £12 10
 At the side is a girandole. Price £9 15



A Queen Anne tea-table with tray top and cabriole legs terminating in club feet—a rare type. Price £10 10

On either side are damask-covered chairs with shaped backs and curious cabriole legs. Price £6 15 each

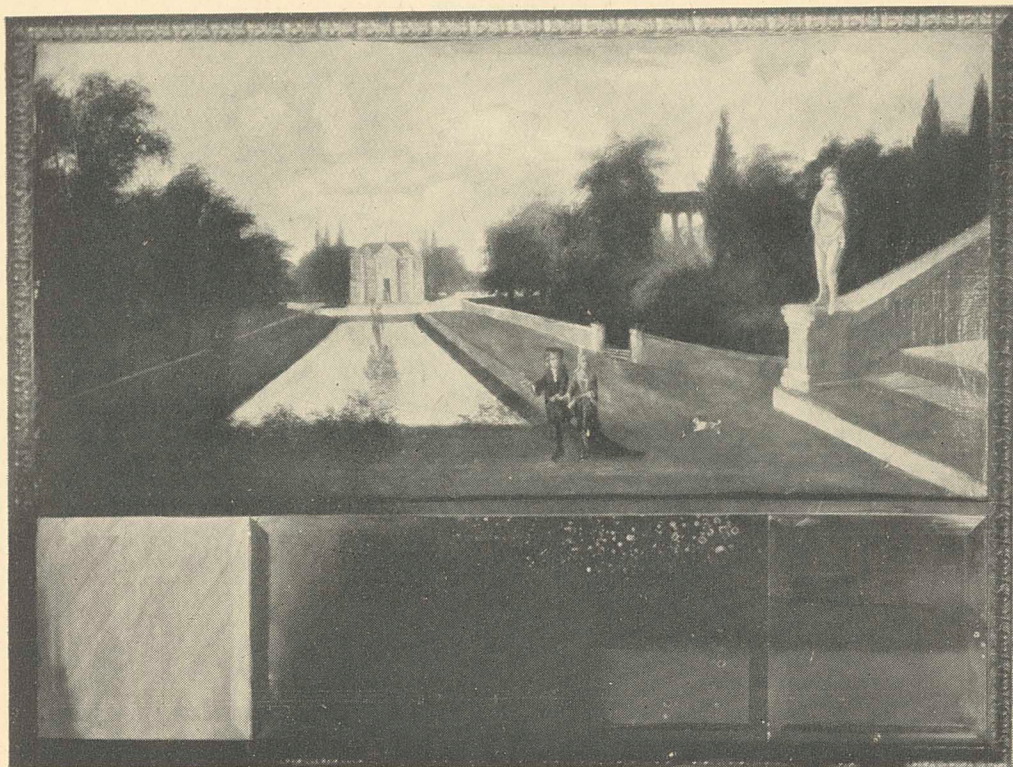
The room in which this photograph was taken is the original room in which Fanny Burney held the famous tea parties with Dr. Johnson, Mrs. Thrale, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and David Garrick.

It was purchased by Messrs. Phillips from the original Burney house in St. Martin's Street, Leicester Square, and was re-erected at the Manor House, Hitchin.



A Queen Anne tea-table with hinged top, painted in brilliant colours with representation of Europa and the Bull, a classical subject frequently found in needlework to the period.

Price £8 10

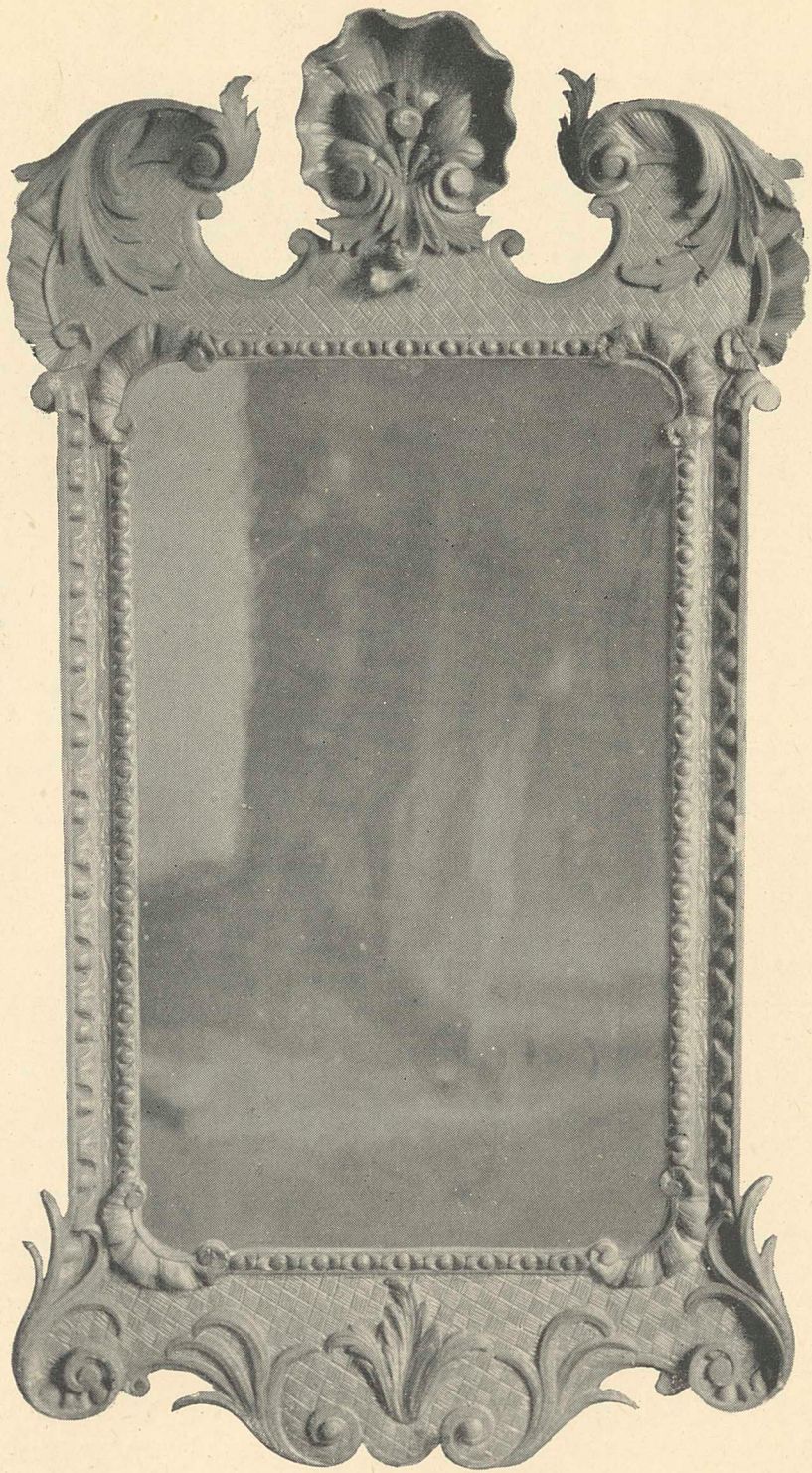


LANDSCAPE MIRROR

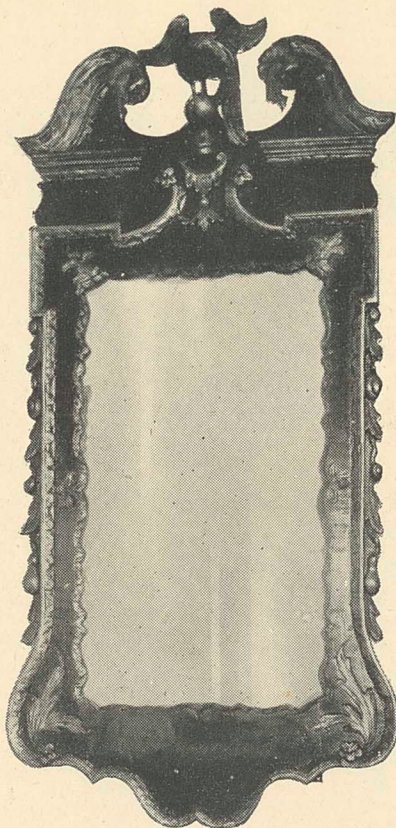
with picture of a Queen Anne house, and garden and figures in the foreground. Size, 4 ft. 3 in. by 3 ft. 4 in. Price £19

The collection of decorative pictures at the Manor House, Hitchin, is too large to be adequately treated in this catalogue. It includes pictures of birds by Hondekoeter, Barlow, Bogdani, Collins—several examples being signed and dated. There is also a large collection of flower paintings in the style of Van Os, Baptiste, Van Huysun, ranging from small examples to large pictures suitable for framing in the panels of rooms.

Messrs. Phillips have recently purchased the wall paintings from the staircase and hall of a Queen Anne country house in the locality. These include pastoral scenes, military scenes and naval engagements.



A gilt gesso mirror, 3 ft. 9 in. high, with finial of shell containing a bunch of flowers. Price £19 10



A Queen Anne mirror

MIRRORS

A walnut wall glass, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 11 in., with the original plate. Price £10 15

A gilt mirror with scrollwork ornament. The top surmounted by a bunch of flowers. Price £25

A Queen Anne mirror in walnut and gold, surmounted by a swan-neck pediment. The old Vauxhall glass in good condition. Price £35

A very fine specimen, 4 ft. high, of a light golden colour, with original plate and gilding. Price £45

An early 18th century mirror in walnut and part gilt, the lower part of serpentine outline, the sides straight. The swan-neck cornice is missing. Price £14 10



A Queen Anne upholstered chair, with cabriole legs terminating in pointed club feet. The back legs of square section. An interesting example of this rare type. Price £9 10

This type of Queen Anne chair is rare and examples are much in demand among collectors of fine furniture. The outlines are very graceful and the colourings of the coverings are very decorative.

NEEDLEWORK CHAIRS

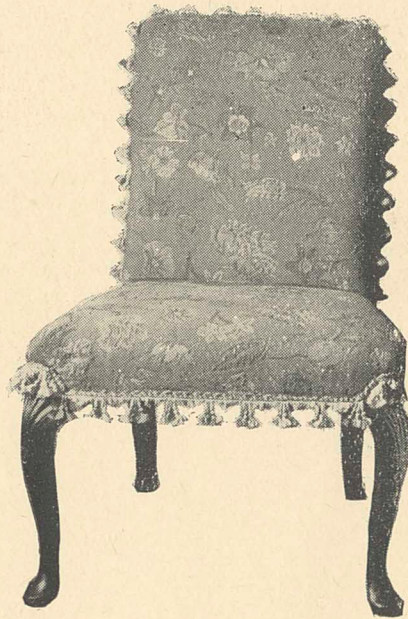
The illustrations show three examples of these very beautiful chairs, covered in richly coloured gros and petit point needlework. Chairs of this type afford magnificent effects of colour in old Queen Anne rooms. These chairs are rarely found in sets, but occasionally pairs are to be met with.



Landscape needlework



*Gros point in imitation of
damask*



*A design of powdered
flowers*

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART



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